

# THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C. MONDAY, APRIL 20, 1857.

## What has been Done?

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Cape Fear and Deep River Navigation Company did this morning. It ratified the contract made at the special meetings, removing some formal objections which might be inconsistent with the charter of the Company. It elected officers for the ensuing year. It provided for a more accurate system in the affairs of the Company—especially in the matter of debts and contracts, and generally completed the business of the special meetings.

We understand that Mr. McLane, on behalf of the contractors, has secured a large force, with which to proceed immediately with the execution of the work indicated by the survey recently made by Mr. Douglas. The work, we presume, will be immediately commenced and pushed through to completion.

His Excellency, Gov. Bragg, as the representative of the State, displayed a warm interest in the success of the work, and interposed no objection not demanded of him by his obligations under existing laws. By his urbanity, his spirit of kindly co-operation, his clear judgment, and his practical suggestions, he rendered service to the work which will long be gratefully remembered by those present, and which will yet bear fruits of great good to the State.

We think that a better and more hopeful spirit has been infused among the friends of the work, and that upon the whole, its prospects are brighter and more cheering.

Mr. Cassiday, the new President, is known as an active and successful business man, and will bring all his own business experience to the service of the Company, assisted and guided by the nearly bought experience accumulated by the Company in a period of years.

It turns out that Palmerston has again carried the day in England. The elections show that, after his recent defeat in the House of Commons he is still stronger than ever he was, and will go into the new Parliament with a much extended lease of official life. The fact is, that Palmerston is the most faithful representative of the genuine John Bull. Bullying wherever he can bully, fighting the weak when he can make anything by fighting, and avoiding fights with the strong, not from fear, but from calculation—on a consciousness that, to use an expressive Americanism, "it won't pay." Pushing English trading interests to the ends of the earth—battering philanthropy and dry goods, fighting negro slavery and stealing coolies—talking liberty and flattery Louis Napoleon, he has at least one thing admirable in the foreign minister of any government—he is the watchful guardian of every subject of that government, and will take up for every man entitled to the protection of the British flag whether he suffer wrong at the hands of the nakedest of savages or the proudest and most powerful of despots.

We make the following extract from the London Times of the 30th ult., brought by the Ericsson from New York:

From the London Times, March 30. Result of the English Elections.—Defeat of the Conservatives.

The appeal to the people has been answered with a force and distinction beyond our anticipations—we may even say our wishes. A mild rebuke and moderate discouragement were the utmost that we hoped or desired for a policy that was rather fatalistic than rational, and which, in the end, we were certain did not expect the signal rebuke which has fallen on the heads of its authors. The League has disappeared from the political horizon, and the beaten party of 246 votes at Huddersfield; Bright and Milner Gibson by from two to three thousand votes at Manchester; Armitage is beaten at Salford by a Ministerial stranger only two or three days in the field; Walsley is driven out of Leicester, and, nearer home, at the Tower Hamlets, we lose the familiar name of Sir W. Clay. Layard loses his seat at Aylesbury, and Sir F. Baring has scarcely saved his at Portsmouth, which he has represented for twenty-five years. Mr. Gladstone loses the noisy support of Mr. R. Phillips, who has been paired out of the House, and for the present at least the quiet vote of Sir S. Northcote. On the other side are two remarkable casualties. Mr. F. Peel has been beaten at Dury, and Admiral Berkeley, First Naval Lord, has been turned out of his seat at Gloucester by Sir R. W. Carden.

Among the new members, the return of Compton from elsewhere, and Kingslake at Bridgewater, is compensation for the loss of Layard. The results of two severe struggles may be set off against the other. Lord John Russell has come in third on the poll in the city, throwing out his antagonist, Mr. Parker Currie; and Mr. Berners Osborne brought in his colleague with himself against a powerful opposition at Dover. Lord John Russell owes his return partly to the support of the political right, but whose claims cannot be again postponed after the reiterated success of the Conservatives in the general election. The Ministerial gain already is over 20, and more may confidently be expected from the counties and other constituencies yet to declare themselves.

Wilmington, Charlotte & Rutherford Rail Road.

The unanimous action of the county Court of Anson county, at its recent session, is well calculated to brighten the hopes, even of the most sanguine friends of this great work. As will be seen by the letter of an esteemed correspondent in that county, the question of subscribing \$150,000 to the stock of the company is to be submitted to the voters of that wealthy county on the 4th of next July. Of the result of the popular vote, we entertain no sort of doubt. Anson is aroused, and will do her part; and there is no county along the line able to do more, if there be any able to do as much. Her people are wealthy and unembarrassed, and will hardly feel the burden which their efforts will impose upon them.

Union also, is coming up to the work, as will be seen from the same letter. Need we say that we are gratified to see that such is the case—that there is still a North Carolina patriotism and public spirit in North Carolina; and that we are not all sold to our Northern and Southern neighbors.

Where there is earnest endeavor, there is no such work as fail. There is earnest endeavor—there is determination here, and failure is not to be thought of.

ANSONVILLE, N. C., April 15th, 1857.

EDITORS OF JOURNAL.—Dear Sirs.—I am happy to announce to you that the Magistrates of this County have unanimously agreed to subscribe \$150,000 to the W. C. & R. Rail Road, and to submit the same to the voters on the 4th of July next, (an appropriate day, is it not?)

If there is any indication in this expression of the Magisterial vote, or in the applause which greeted its announcement to the anxious crowd assembled to witness our deliberations, the vote will be overwhelmingly large. Of its success we entertain no doubt, for every Magistrate in the County is in favor of the subscription, and scarcely a dissenting voice amongst our citizens.

I learn from reliable authority, that the Magistrates of Union have also unanimously agreed upon a subscription. Thus you will perceive, the people in this section are now alive to the importance of the work, and it only needs one vigorous effort to push this great and truly State work to final completion. Yours truly, S. W. C.

Hawke's History of North Carolina.

We are indebted to the courtesy of the publishers for the "History of North Carolina: with Maps and Illustrations." By Francis L. Hawks, D. D., L. D., Vol. I, embracing the period between the first voyage to the colony in 1584, to the last in 1591.—Fayetteville, N. C.: Published by E. J. Hale & Son, Raleigh, H. D. Turner.—W. L. Pomeroy, 1857.

We anticipate much pleasure in making a full examination of this work. To-day, however, we have only the opportunity of observing that the publishers have done their part by the work, which is well printed, on good paper, with new and distinct types, and the illustrations executed in a style worthy of the character of the history. At our earliest leisure we shall esteem it not only a duty, but a privilege to make a more extended notice of a work which ought to engage the attention of North Carolinians, either by birth or adoption.

# Cape Fear and Deep River Meeting.

We resume our sketch where we left off yesterday.

H. A. London and A. H. VanBokkelen, Esqs., were appointed Secretaries, and the Secretaries appointed a committee to ascertain the amount of Stock present in person and by proxy.

The committee reported 646 shares of individual stock represented in person, and 532 by proxy, and 1600 shares held by the State and represented by Gov. Bragg, which being a majority of stock, the meeting was declared ready for business.

The Reports of the President and of the Treasurer were presented and read. Col. Murchison, the President, announced his determination not to be a candidate for re-election.

The proceedings of the special meetings held here in February and March were read by the Secretary.

The report of the Treasurer, or at least that part of it relating to the action of the special meetings above mentioned, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Robt. E. Rives, P. K. Dickinson, N. N. Nixon, P. J. Hill, O. G. Parsley and Col. John McRae. The meeting adjourned until half past three.

During the afternoon session nothing was done, as the Stockholders awaited the report of the special Committee, and that Committee was not ready to report.

Meeting called to order this morning at 11 o'clock. The special committee, to which was referred certain portions of the Treasurer's report, submitted a report re-affirming, in effect, the action taken at the special meetings in February and March, and confirming the contract with Dungan & Co. This report was received and adopted.

A report from Mr. Douglass was also read, estimating the cost of opening the work to the Coal mines at \$62,761 00.—Daily Journal, 17th inst.

The Deep River Meeting.

The report of the special committee to whom was referred so much of the Treasurer's report, as related to the meetings held in February and March, is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the "Report of the Treasurer," have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report the following resolutions as embodying in their judgment, the matter under their consideration, and respectfully recommend the adoption of the same.

ROBT. E. RIVES, Chairman.

Resolved, That the President and Directors of this Corporation be, and they are hereby authorized, to make such arrangements with the contractors, with respect to their claims for work and labor since the ratification of the Act of 1854 and 5, authorizing this Company to issue Bonds, &c., as they may deem proper and just, and for the best interest of the Company, and to make such payments for the same as they may deem proper and just, out of the proceeds of the sale of the bonds and other property owned by this Company; and that they apply the balance thereof to the work yet to be done; and that for any balance thereafter due for said work, the President and Directors be authorized and requested to issue certificates of preferred stock at the rates already agreed upon with Dungan, Cartwright & Co., as the work progresses; and that the whole is done, provided that such certificates, when added to the amount of preferred stock already mentioned, do not exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars.

Resolved, That such money as shall hereafter be received for subscription of preferred stock, and the same shall be applied by the President and Directors pro rata to any existing claims upon the Company, and to the payment of the bonds of the Company, and when received, it shall be their duty to apply the same, from time to time, in satisfaction of any contract of the company heretofore appointed to contract for work to be done upon the Cape Fear and Deep River, and, after reserving such amount as is indispensable for the compensation of the officers and necessary employees of the Company, faithfully to apply the balance, so far as such money may be necessary, to pay and discharge the same, as it accrues, on the bonds of the company, endorsed by the State by virtue of the Act of 1854 and 5.

Resolved, That the President and Directors are hereby authorized, in their discretion, to sell the Steamer Haughton and her tow boats, so as not to interfere with any contract of the company with the contractors, and the proceeds of the sale shall be applied in payment, pro rata, of the \$300,000 bonds issued under the Act of 1852 and 33 by this Company, to secure which the first mortgage was executed.

Resolved, That the President and Directors be, and they are hereby authorized, to sell the Steamer Haughton and her tow boats, so as not to interfere with any contract of the company with the contractors, and the proceeds of the sale shall be applied in payment, pro rata, of the \$300,000 bonds issued under the Act of 1852 and 33 by this Company, to secure which the first mortgage was executed.

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# Mr. W. A. Harris has entered upon the duties of his position as editor of the Union, having, in the issue of the 15th, announced himself sole editor and proprietor of that paper. We are among those who do not believe in the value or advantage of official "organs." A bold and independent journal, advocating Democratic principles, because it likes them, and working for the harmony of the party, because it believes such harmony to be essential to the success of these principles, is one thing, and one good thing, because it gives to the party whatever power and influence it may be able to command. It is really a supporter of the party. A mere "organ" expects to lean upon the party—to be supported by it—to be a pensionary, as it were. That is another thing, and not a good thing in our opinion. However, tastes differ. We prefer the system of padding your own chance. If the party gains anything from the officiality of an organ at Washington City, we have yet to find out what it is.

Mr. Harris bids fair to make a good paper. We are glad that the Union, at last, has an Editor, for it has been "lying about loose" for some time past.

Commissioners of Navigation.

On Wednesday night last, the Democrats of the town of Wilmington, met together and nominated a ticket for Commissioners of Navigation. We think all will agree with us in saying that the gentlemen composing the ticket, are good and true men, in whose hands, if elected, the interests committed to them will be safe—that, in fact, they will make a good Board.

The Democrats deprecate any bitterness or undue excitement in this matter, while they must feel that it is due to themselves to use every honorable exertion to secure the success of their nominees. It is for their opponents to imitate their desire to avoid excitement by abstaining from running a ticket as the Democrats did on a former occasion. This, however, is for the opposition themselves to consider. It is for them, of course, to pursue the policy they may deem best, as the Democrats always will do, irrespective of any outside arrangements. One thing all citizens must feel by this time, and that is, the uselessness of allowing unfriendly feelings to arise out of these local contests.

IMPORTANT CASE.—The action of ejectment, brought by Stephens and others, claiming as heirs of General William Blount, of Tennessee, against Wm. C. Belton and thirty-one others, residents of the town of Wilmington, was tried at the Superior Court of Law for Brunswick county, in session this week at Smithville. The cause, which has excited much attention in this community, was one of great interest, and consumed three days in its trial, ending in a verdict for the defendants. His Honor, Judge Person, on the bench.

Attorneys for the Plaintiffs:—Gen. J. G. Bynum, and Mauger London, Robert Strange and Samuel Langdon, Esqrs.

For the Defendants:—Wm. A. Wright, Esq., Hon. Warren Winslow, Joshua G. Wright, George Davis, T. C. Miller and M. B. Smith, Esqrs.

From the magnitude of the interests involved, and the number of parties to the defence, this case assumes so much of public character, that we shall endeavor to obtain a fuller report of the particulars for publication in our next issue. It will, no doubt, be acceptable to our readers.

Daily Journal, 18th inst.

THE CAUSE OF THE BLOUNT HEIRS, AGAIN CERTAIN

lit-holders in the town of Wilmington, recently tried at Brunswick Superior Court, naturally attracted considerable attention, inasmuch as the property claimed embraces a large portion of ground included within the present limits of the town of Wilmington, and is held by a great many parties, who acquired title as bona fide purchasers, or at least in ignorance of any adverse claim.

The plaintiff's claim is under what is known as "the Watson Grant," being a grant of land made under George II., in 1735, to John Watson, which tract Watson, in 1737, deeded to Joshua Granger. Granger, by a will dated 1741, bequeathed it to Caleb Granger. About 1763, that Caleb Granger willed it to another Caleb Granger, who, sometime between 1780 and 1790, willed it to Mary Granger, wife of Governor Blount, of Tennessee. About 1800, died Mary, and a plaintiff claims that the property has run in her heirs as minors, or fides covert, to the date of the institution of this suit—1849 or 1850.

These, we believe, are the main facts.

For the defence it was alleged that the grant to Watson could not be located—that the identity of the different Grangers through whom the property was claimed to have descended, could not be established, as there were several Grangers of the same name residents of the town of Wilmington, at the time referred to, and that the will of Joshua Granger, dated 1741, never had been proved, and no evidence existed in regard to it, save its being found in the office of the Secretary of State in 1846, we believe, and the belief or supposition of the Secretary that it had been there during his term of office, which it will be remembered, has been a long one. Under an act of the General Assembly of 1852-3, copies of deeds so found were admissible as evidence. The clause of this act having reference to copies of deeds not proven, was repealed by an act of the last General Assembly.

The Court admitted the deed in question upon common law grounds, to go to the jury as a fact to be decided upon by it.

The case which commenced on Wednesday and closed on Friday evening, was ably conducted by the counsel on both sides. The closing argument for the defence was made by George Davis, Esq., and is spoken of as a very able effort. Verdict for the defendants.

The case, we had almost forgotten to say, was one that had been moved from this county.

We believe these are substantially the facts of a case which has been a good deal talked upon here.

A friend in Sampson county has favored us with a copy of "An Address delivered before the Sampson County Agricultural Society, at its Second Annual Fair, in Clinton, December, 1856. By Thomas A. McDowell. Clinton, N. C.: Published by the Society, at the office of the Clinton Independent, 1857."

We have glanced hurriedly over this "Address," and have derived pleasure from so doing. It is a plain, practical address, by one active, practical and intelligent farmer, to others of the same class. It directs attention to the really important objects which ought to claim and receive the attention of the agriculturists of North Carolina, and especially of this section of North Carolina. It inculcates the spirit and enforces the necessity of laboring for independence in all things—of going in debt for the purchase of nothing that can be made at home—of keeping up and improving farms, rather than of ruining and impoverishing them for temporary returns, inducing extravagance and resulting in embarrassment.

Such addresses cannot but result in good. They are no mere theories, but sensible talks with farmers by their brethren, proud of their vocation, and anxious to see it take its just and proper position as the real support of the country.

Dr. Ives lectured in Norfolk, Va., on the night of the 14th inst.

# Wilmington and We'don Rail Road.

We have received the following statement of the receipts and expenditures on the above Road for the six months ending March 31st, 1857, as compared with the six months ending March 31st, 1856. The showing is highly satisfactory to the friends of the Road—indicating an increase in receipts and a decrease in expenditures:—

Loss in expenditures:—		
Total Receipts	1856-7.	1855-6.
October	\$42,708 15	\$37,730 47
November	35,039 35	34,803 66
December	49,738 06	47,168 30
January	33,027 29	31,701 29
February	40,457 74	35,906 08
March	55,541 89	50,782 92
	\$252,337 48	\$288,089 62
Showing an increase in receipts of \$14,247 89.		
The increase in Through Travel is \$13,155 89.		
EXPENDITURES	1856-7.	1855-6.
October	\$116,608 17	\$11,894 82
November	23,625 49	28,354 50
December	16,544 82	30,577 88
January	16,966 44	24,753 31
February	25,305 58	19,437 60
March	27,672 75	19,477 74